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to 1957
BOROUGH OF FARNWORTH



Annual Report
— OF THE —
Medical Officer of Health

Including the Report of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1957

DOULDSFORDS FARNWORTH

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*With
the Compliments of the
Medical Officer
of Health*

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SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1957

COULTHURSTS, FARNWORTH

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

*THE MAYOR (Councillor J. G. SEDDON, J.P.) *ex officio*

**Chairman*: Alderman J. A. DEAN

**Vice-Chairman*: Councillor J. W. GEERE, J.P., C.C.

Members:

Alderman J. BROOKS, C.C.

*Alderman R. MATTHEWS

Alderman W. WELSBY

*Councillor H. BRINDLE

Councillor G. BLOOR

Councillor J. HARDY (Miss)

*Councillor J. HIGGINS

Councillor P. SMITH

Councillor J. M. WHITE

* *Members of the Sub-Committee*

STAFF OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Medical Officer of Health:

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. CORSCADDEN, CERT. R.S.I. & S.I.E. JT. BOARD,
R.S.I. Food Inspection, R.S.I. Smoke Inspector.

Public Health Inspectors:

J. SMITH, CERT. R.S.I. & S.I.E. JT. BOARD.
R.S.I. Food Inspection. (Resigned 31/1/57).

W. J. WOLSTENHOLME, R.S.I. & S.I.E. JT. BOARD.
R.S.I. Food Inspection. (Appointed 14/5/57).

Clerks:

Mrs. M. M. TAYLOR.
Mrs. P. BRISTOW.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough, together with the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, for the year 1957.

The population is estimated at 27,560 and since the census of 1951 when the figure was 28,614 the population has shown a steady decrease. The Birth Rate and the Death Rate over the years show little fluctuation and the population decrease is due to people leaving the town to live elsewhere. In the census year there were 8,858 houses occupied and in 1957 this figure had risen to 9,370. There is, of course, much less overcrowding. While the cotton industry is employing less workers other industries, particularly some branches of engineering, have greatly increased. A great number of people work in the Borough and live elsewhere.

Only a high speed housing policy, where the demolition of old property and the erection of new houses proceed at the same time, will maintain the population of the town. Such a policy may even increase it. All this, however, is intricately bound up with the National housing and economic programme.

The Death Rate of 14.2 is the highest since the 14.7 in 1951. The increase is due this year to the deaths from heart disease.

In 1950 the classification of deaths for statistical purposes was changed by the Registrar General to the form in which they appear today. A comparison of the main causes of deaths from 1950 to 1957 is of some interest.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1950 to 1957

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Heart disease (all forms)	139	97	88	107	106	118	126	113
Coronary disease	64	48	41	43	44	44	43	38
Cancer (all forms)	56	51	48	53	56	59	56	72
Cancer (lung only)	15	9	12	8	7	12	3	6
Vascular disease of nervous system, (Cerebral haemorrhage etc)	46	52	48	45	42	42	52	45
Pneumonia, Bronchitis etc.	37	37	48	36	35	36	63	45

There is no ready explanation of the increase in deaths from heart disease of which nearly fifty per cent. are due to coronary disease. No organ of the body can function without an adequate blood supply and the coronary artery supplies the heart muscle itself.

Coronary thrombosis is perhaps more likely to occur in fat people but stress, strain or worry in some form is probably the predisposing cause. "Let me have men about me that are fat," says Julius Caesar, no doubt because of their jovial, good natured outlook on life. The coronary thrombosis victims are generally the bustlers, the excitable, the all the time top gear men. He is a bad car driver who rushes his car at a hill so that it struggles the last few yards in top gear. "I've done it in top." It does not do the car any good. So with life, especially when the half century is reached, one must take things more easily and gently. One must get down to a lower gear more often.

Cancer on the whole is on the decrease, except cancer of the lung. Earlier diagnosis and modern radium and deep ray therapy are responsible for this. The chief cause of lung cancer is undoubtedly smoking, particularly cigarette smoking, particularly inhaling. It is the excessive smokers who are the victims of lung cancer.

Cerebral haemorrhage and cerebral thrombosis deaths remain fairly stable and pneumonia and bronchitis depend on weather conditions as the severe weather of 1955 and 1951 bears testimony.

Pulmonary tuberculosis is rapidly decreasing and cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are rare. In 1944 there were 19 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and 12 in 1945. This year there was one death, in 1956 and 1955 there were 2 each year. Again early diagnosis and improved methods of treatment are responsible for the decline in this disease. Clean milk and food hygiene have almost eradicated the non-pulmonary type of disease.

The deaths in age groups are here shown and it is seen that, despite the atmospheric pollution of chiefly coal burning houses in an industrial district, long life is attained by many. Ten years ago 28.8% of the deaths recorded was in people over 76. In 1957 this percentage had risen to 34.5%. Those whose ages at death were 81 or over in 1948 provided 11.2% of the total deaths, which rose to 14.1% for the year 1957.

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS FOR 1957

1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-75	76-80	81 +
15	—	2	6	14	46	102	61	67	63

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A measles epidemic occurred in the early months of the year when 512 cases were notified, the highest number since 1948 when 526 cases were recorded. The number of cases of dysentery was only 14 notified compared to 158 of the previous year.

There were 21 cases of food poisoning notified and the usual exhaustive enquiries by the Public Health Inspectors were made.

The one case of poliomyelitis was a girl of 3½ years, who was subsequently treated for a residual paralysis at Marple Orthopaedic Hospital.

OLD PEOPLE

It will be seen from a consideration of the deaths discussed above that there are more old people than ever before. The care of the aged and infirm constitutes a serious problem. Despite the good work of the Old People's Welfare Association there is still much that needs to be done. It is a deplorable fact that little is done for their elders by the young people of the town.

So much has been said in previous reports on this subject that there is little that is new to be said.

There is still a great need in this area for a hostel for the aged. The need has existed for years and every year the problem becomes more acute.

Meanwhile we are grateful for what is being done by a small band of kindly disposed people.

HOUSING

Little has been done during the year in the five year plan for the demolition of old property. This is due to a combination of circumstances. The slow progress in the actual demolition of areas already condemned and the limited number of new houses erected partly accounts for this. The depletion in the staff of Public Health Inspectors does nothing to help the problem.

A great deal of time is required to deal with defects and complaints relating to houses in the town. The extent of the duties now laid upon a Public Health staff has increased a great deal and adequate supervision of the town under the numerous Acts can be but perfunctorily carried out with the limited staff at present employed. Until more Public Health Inspectors are available this condition is likely to persist.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Legislation dealing with factory smoke comes into operation in 1958, and will enable the Council to have more control over industrial pollution.

Little can be done about domestic smoke until all houses are equipped with fire grates capable of burning coke and smokeless fuel. New houses erected should have the modern type of grates installed. There should also be available abundant quantities of smokeless fuel at an economic price.

FYLDE STREET DISASTER

On the 12th September, 1957, following a period of 48 hours almost continuous rain, a small hole appeared in the roadway in Fylde Street. By midday it had grown large enough to hold a bus and subsidence had radiated on the Borough side to 370 feet at its longest and 250 feet at its widest. Houses and roads in the area collapsed, sewage rose in the crater, adjacent house cellars were flooded with sewage and the rain continued. This was the dismal picture on that day.

This report has nothing to do with the technicalities of the sewage system and the cause of the disaster. It is, however, concerned with the hardships and suffering inflicted on the people of the area, the work carried out to alleviate the distress and the prevention of contamination of the area with escaping sewage.

The crater occurred on the boundary between Bolton and Farnworth and although no subsidence of houses took place in Bolton itself, as a precautionary measure, houses were evacuated on both sides of the boundary. In Farnworth 16 houses were so badly damaged that there was no possibility of repair. As a safety measure 34 houses were compulsorily evacuated and about 20 houses were evacuated in fear by the occupants.

Thus 70 families comprising some 250 people of various ages had to be accommodated elsewhere.

By night time of the day of the disaster only six families were without accommodation. Relatives, friends and even strangers had opened their doors to the unfortunate.

The County Council is the Welfare Authority whose duty it is in such ill happenings to care for distressed people. The six families were housed in Hollins Cottage Homes which the County Council had now acquired and though the rooms were bare and cheerless they at least afforded a roof and shelter from the rain which continued to fall. The County Council Welfare Service did not extend to goods and chattels of the victims of the disaster so the transportation of furniture and other household effects was carried out at the Borough's expense.



"By mid-day the hole had grown large enough to hold a bus"



Photo by Hallawell, Manchester

"Houses so badly damaged that there was no possibility of repair"



Photo by Bolton Evening News

With the fracture of the sewage pipe in Fylde Street, houses on both sides of the boundary were without any sewage disposal system and the Fire Brigades from the County and the County Borough were coping with sewage by pumping to a main sewer beyond the crater which was still working. The almost continuous rain made the task still more difficult.

In case of fractured water mains, the Medical Officer of Health of Bolton had wisely chlorinated the drinking water of the area.

The fire pumps, used normally for clear water, were frequently clogged by the solid matter in the sewage and the pumps had to be dismantled and cleared. To prevent the risk of infection, drums of bactericidal solution were placed near every pump and the firemen instructed in the safe method of cleaning the hands after attending to a pump stoppage. "Disinfecting fluid" was supplied to occupants of houses with sewage flooded cellars. A First Aid Post was set up at Police Headquarters near the site of operations to deal with minor injuries among the workmen and personnel.

At the Police Headquarters an Enquiry Centre was established to collect and give information concerning the evacuees and their temporary addresses.

People requiring help of various kinds were sent to the Health Department at the Town Hall which was open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. during the first three days.

The full personnel of the Health Department visited before 10 p.m. on the day of the disaster all the evacuees to learn their needs.

Blankets, sheets, beds, etc., were available on loan and the delivery to various addresses was arranged.

There was no panic and the early signs of despair quickly disappeared.

The evacuation from the houses facing the crater in Fylde Street, which were in grave danger of collapsing, was carried out quickly at 8 a.m. This was before the crater had reached its maximum size.

On the days of September 13th and 14th the Mayor and Alderman Stevenson visited those evacuated from these houses. The evacuees had managed to rescue few of their personal belongings, and such necessary articles as dentures, reading glasses, razors, etc., were by the time of the Mayor's visit, underneath piles of rubble. These losses were made good by the ready co-operation of Dental Surgeons, Opticians and others.

The Mayor's distress fund was launched and on the Monday following the disaster financial assistance was available on application to the Health Department. The Town Clerk's and Borough Treasurer's departments were now working in close liaison with the Health Department.

Furniture was removed to storage, extra coal supplied and many other services were given on the sanction of the Borough Treasurer.

Visits were made to the residents at Hollins Cottage Homes and a ton of coal was sent up for their use.

Sheets, bedding and beds were obtained from Hollins Cottage Homes and from the Bolton District General Hospital. Many offers of assistance were received in the way of clothing, transport, and furniture, and the W.V.S. helped in the collection and distribution.

From the damaged shops foodstuffs were collected and examined before suitable disposal.

Rat infestation and fly plagues were prevented by early precautions. Chlorination plant was set up to deal with crude sewage that was now being diverted in an open trench through Moses Gate station yard.

Rehousing of those whose homes were destroyed was quickly accomplished and by December, temporary sewage disposal had been organised for the houses in Fylde Street and families were allowed to return there and to the houses on the Bolton side of the boundary.

A great deal of the furniture in the damaged houses was salvaged at some risk by the firemen.

Tributes well merited have elsewhere been paid to the fortitude of the sufferers of the disaster, the hospitality of relatives, neighbours and strangers and the many kind offers of help, material and otherwise, which came from Farnworth itself and places far removed.

The promptitude with which people were evacuated from the houses when the crater was a very small crack is worth special mention.

Not one death or injury occurred in the whole period of the disaster. But for the foresight and labours of many it could easily have been otherwise.

I am grateful for the help and encouragement which I have always received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and I am fortunate in a staff so loyal and co-operative that when occasion demands, willingly extend the working day without thought of recompense.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	1,504 statute acres
Population	27,560 Estimated mid-1957
	28,614 Census 1951.
Number of Inhabited houses, 1931	7,104
Number of Inhabited houses, 1957	9,370
Rateable Value (1st April, 1957)	£231,082
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£875

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957

BIRTHS:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	216	195	411
Illegitimate	13	6	19
TOTAL	229	201	430

STILL BIRTHS:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	8	11
Illegitimate	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	8	11

	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.4	16.1
Still Births per 1,000 total births	25.0	22.4

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	7	11
Illegitimate	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	7	11

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
(all infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births)	26	23
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	8	
Maternal Deaths	—	349

DEATH RATE:	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
Per 1,000 population	14.5	11.5

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ALL AGES IN 1957

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	24
Coronary disease, angina	41	23
Hypertension with heart disease	13	5
Other heart disease	21	36
Other circulatory disease	7	8
Influenza	9	1
Pneumonia	6	4
Bronchitis	12	13
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Congenital malformations	3	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	23
Motor vehicle accidents	1	2
All other accidents	5	10
Suicide	1	1
TOTAL	192	184

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED
DURING THE YEAR 1957

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	AGE PERIODS — YEARS										25 & over	Age un- known
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-				
Scarlet Fever	55	1	1	2	7	8	34	2	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough...	22	1	4	6	4	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-paralytic	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles (exciuding rubella)	512	19	61	84	105	69	171	3	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	14	1	-	1	2	2	3	3	2	-	-	-	

		0-	5-	15-	45-	65 and over	Age un- known
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	38	3	9	10	7	9	—
Erysipelas.....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
Food poisoning ...	21	5	1	7	5	3	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory	10	—	—	6	4	—	—
Meninges&C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	1	—	1	—	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA

There were no cases of diphtheria in the resident population of Farnworth during 1957.

FOOD POISONING

Twenty-one cases of food poisoning were notified during the year 1957. In 16 cases the organism isolated was salmonella typhimurium, in one case salmonella tennessee, in one case salmonella thompson and in three cases the cause was unknown.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

INSPECTIONS DURING 1957

During the year some 1,527 premises were visited for the purpose of administering the provisions of the various Acts and Orders.

	<i>Number of Visits</i>
Houses—Public Health Act	538
Housing Act	315
Overcrowding	4
Disinfections	4
Disinfestations	91
Infectious diseases	177
Factories	34
Bakehouses	20
Milk distributors	21
Rent Act, 1957	94
Food premises	136
Drainage work	700
Ice Cream dealers	29
Rodent control	377
Fylde Street subsidence	396
Clean Air Act	63
Market	41
Butchers' shops	112
Fried fish shops	7
Hospitals	40
Schools	7
Shops Act	4
Pet shops	10
Slaughterhouses	221
Conversion of waste water closets	15
Dairies	53
Miscellaneous	172
Defects or nuisances—	
Number discovered	219
Number abated	191
Number of notices served—	
Informal	78
Statutory	4

WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water by Bolton Corporation. The water is derived from upland gathering grounds and is filtered and treated before going into supply. It is soft in nature and satisfactory in quality and quantity. All dwellings in the Borough are supplied directly with water.

The supply was from Heaton Sand Filters, Ferns Park Pressure Filters and the Sweetloves Open Sand Filters, and 12 samples of both raw and filtered water were subjected to full chemical analysis and 150 samples of raw and 152 samples of filtered water, to bacteriological examination by the Bolton Borough Analyst. The results showed that general filtration and treatment of the raw water were necessary and that the filtered and treated water was of excellent quality, *B. Coli* being absent in almost all cases. Where 100% bacteriological purity was not obtained, a second sample taken immediately proved to be satisfactory. All water is treated before passing into supply.

From tests made weekly, the water was shown to have no significant plumbo-solvent action.

No action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination.

An additional 100 yards of 2in. and 49 yards of 3in. water main were laid in Farnworth during the year.

DRAINAGE

The inspection and testing of all new drainage work and of alterations to existing drainage was maintained during the year and a high degree of co-operation with the local building contractors was in evidence.

The number of waste water closets was again reduced. A grant of £10. was made in respect of each conversion and the overall situation is as follows:—

Number of privy middens	3
Number of closets attached to these middens	3
Number of pail closets	6
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
Number of trough closets	Nil
Number of waste water closets	38
Number of fresh water closets	10507
Number of houses on water carriage system	9373
Number of waste water closets converted to fresh water closets during the year	4

The privies and pail closets left in the area are on outlying farms, where, at the moment, it is not practicable to connect to the public sewer.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This is carried out under the control of the Borough Surveyor, a weekly collection of the contents of 10,493 dustbins being maintained by three covered motor vehicles. The refuse, after the recovery of salvageable materials is disposed of by tipping in the Darley area.

VERMIN INFESTATION

The incidence of infestation of houses with *cimex lectularius* (bed bugs) was small. It was not necessary to have any houses disinfested with hydrogen cyanide. Six Council houses and 50 privately owned houses were disinfested against insect pests.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Pet shops are inspected in co-operation with the R.S.P.C.A. Two pet shops were re-registered in Farnworth in 1957.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Considerable progress has been made in assessing the problems arising from industrial plant within the Borough and several firms have taken positive steps to reduce smoke emission.

It is significant that Clean Air is one of the most important results of fuel efficiency and with the continuing increase in the cost of fuel the boiler operator has a highly responsible rôle to play. He must, therefore, be competent to operate the plant efficiently and in order to reach this stage a basic training is essential. This, together with some incentive on qualifying, perhaps by increased remuneration, would provide industry with its most important requirement if it is to satisfy the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

The pollution from domestic sources continues at almost the same rate except for those householders using smokeless fuels.

SHOPS AND OFFICES :	<i>Defects &</i>	
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Contraventions</i>
(a) Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences	4	—
(b) Public Health Act, 1936, relating to conditions in offices, i.e., ventilation, sanitary conveniences	4	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS :—

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. of inspections</i>	<i>No. of written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
Factories without mechanical power	2	—	—
Factories with mechanical power ...	30	—	—
Other premises	2	—	—
Total	34	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND Nil

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The infestation of rats in the Borough still presents a major problem as the statistics below indicate.

During the year the Department acquired a motor vehicle for the use of the rodent operator. This will afford greater mobility and ensure that the poisons used in this work can be carried about with a greater degree of safety.

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	Others including Business and industrial	TOTAL
Number of properties in local authority's district..	9469	8	955	10,432
Number of properties inspected by the local authority, primarily for rodent infestation	431	1	177	609
Number of properties found to be infested by rats and mice	424	1	159	584
Number of infested properties treated by the local authority	424	1	159	584

SEWER TREATMENTS

Dates of treatment	20th May to 5th June	18th Nov. to 23rd Nov.
Total number of manholes	1054	1054
Bait and poison	Bread mash & arsenic	Bread mash & zinc phosphide
Number of manholes baited	960	114
Number of manholes showing prebait take	99	13
Number of manholes showing complete prebait take on one or both days	59	13

PUBLIC BATHS

The public baths are owned by the Corporation and are under the control of the Health Committee.

MORTUARY

The public mortuary, situated in Gas Street, is the responsibility of the Health Committee, but its use is mainly determined by the County police.

FOOD HYGIENE

PREPARATION, SALE AND STORAGE OF FOOD

296 inspections were made of premises used for the preparation, sale and storage of food. Informal action again proved to be the most effective method of bringing about improvements in this field and this work was supplemented by an experiment in the way of a series of evening meetings for members of the food trades. These were held during October and November and the response was excellent, the average attendance being 120. A keen sense of responsibility was displayed by these persons in attending these lectures outside their normal working hours. The meetings, which were held at the Town Hall, were addressed by several eminent speakers who dealt with all aspects of food handling and illustrated their subjects with films. The Public Health Committee issued a certificate of attendance to each person attending all the lectures.

MILK SUPPLY

The number of milk distributors registered by the local authority at the end of the year was as follows:—

Dairies in Farnworth	2
Dairy farms in the district	6
Shops other than dairies	148
Premises outside the district	6

Fourteen dealers' licences to retail tuberculin tested milk were issued.

The number of licences to retail heat treated milk was 17 for pasteurised and 145 for sterilised milk.

Twelve samples of raw milk were taken for examination for the presence of tuberculosis; all were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

Four premises are registered as being suitable for the manufacture of ice cream and were so used during the year.

Three premises were registered during the year for the sale of ice cream, making a total of 123 registered in Farnworth.

Twenty-nine inspections of ice cream dealers' and manufacturers' premises were made during the year.

PRESERVED FOOD

112 inspections were made of premises used in connection with the sale of preserved food. Twenty-nine such premises are registered in Farnworth.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Two private slaughter-houses are licensed in the Borough, only one of which was actually in use during the year.

All the animals slaughtered were inspected, and there follows a table of the number of animals inspected and the amount of meat condemned.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle ex- cluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	135	Nil	2	841	Nil
Number inspected	135	Nil	2	841	Nil
All diseases except tuberculosis:—					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	26	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	3%	Nil
Tuberculosis only: —					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.5%	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number of carcasses found to be affected with
cysticercus bovis Nil

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1938 AND 1954

During the year 6 persons had their licences to slaughter animals renewed. One new licence was issued.

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

<i>Articles condemned</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Tinned foods from retail shops	528 lbs.
Other Foods (meat, eggs and flour)	221 lbs.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN DISTRICT AT THE END OF THE YEAR

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers	142
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	30
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	5
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	37
Bakers and/or confectioners	46
Fried fish shops	26
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc. .	17
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafés, snack bars and similar catering establishments	93

HAWKERS

One hawker was registered during the year, making a total of 13 registered in Farnworth.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and samples are taken by the County Sanitary Officer in collaboration with the local Public Health Inspector.

Particulars of samples taken during the year.

Milk	75
Other articles	57

The other 57 articles comprised:—

5 Bread	1 Fish paste
5 Flour	1 Soda mint tablets B.P.
1 Welsh rarebit	1 Instant pudding mix
2 Lard	1 Condensed milk
1 Borax	1 Glucose drink
3 Tea	2 Fruit curd
1 Teething powder	1 Treacle
1 Golden raising powder	1 Orange drink
1 Glycerin B.P.	3 Bicarbonate of soda
4 Meat—canned	1 Ice-cream
2 Camphorated oil	1 Seidlitz powder
2 Castor oil	1 Brown sugar
1 Custard powder	1 Herbal remedy
1 Non-alcoholic "Port" beverage	2 Christmas pudding
1 Black beer	1 Shredded suet
1 Coffee	1 Fruit—canned
1 Jam	1 Epsom salts
1 Pickles	1 Almonds—ground
	1 Dried fruit



Photo by Manchester Evening News

“Fire brigades from the County and Borough were coping with sewage”



Photo by Manchester Evening News

“The almost continuous rain made the task still more difficult”



"Furniture was removed to storage"

Photo by Bolton Evening News



Fylde Street

Photo by Hallawell, Manchester

With the exception of those listed below, all the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
Powdered Borax.	Borax is a preservative not permitted in food. Label should be altered. Reference to addition to boiling vegetables to be deleted.	Packers informed.
Black beer.	Composition equivalent to 1,650 calories as compared with "almost 2,000" claimed in leaflet.	Manufacturers informed.
Fish Paste (Formal)	Fish 20%, Cereal Filler, etc. 80%. Sample was deficient 71% of the minimum percentage of fish as laid down by the Food Standards (Fish Paste) Order, 1951.	Prosecution. Fined £10. and ordered to pay £4. 18. 0d costs.
Bicarbonate of Soda. (Informal)	Consisted of 51.3% of Sodium Bicarbonate and 48.7% of Borax.	Formal sample obtained.
Bicarbonate of Soda. (Formal)	Sodium Bicarbonate 42%; Borax 43½%; Boric Acid 14½%. Total 100%. B.P. quality contains not less than 99% of Sodium Bicarbonate. Deficient 57½%. Also contained Borax and Boric Acid.	Legal proceedings not possible owing to liquidation of firm. Remaining stock withdrawn from sale.

HOUSING

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:— *Houses*

(i) By the local authority	86
(ii) By other local authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	10

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES

DURING THE YEAR:—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	141
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	853
2. Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) Number found during year	3
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	617
3. Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	78

2. HOUSES DEMOLISHED:—

In Clearance Areas—(Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):

	<i>Houses demolished</i>	<i>Displaced persons</i>
1. Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	Nil
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 27, Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil

Not in Clearance Areas:

4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	4	14
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3. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED:—

	<i>Number</i>
1. Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2), Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953 ...	Nil
2. Under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2), Housing Act, 1949	Nil
3. Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936	Nil

